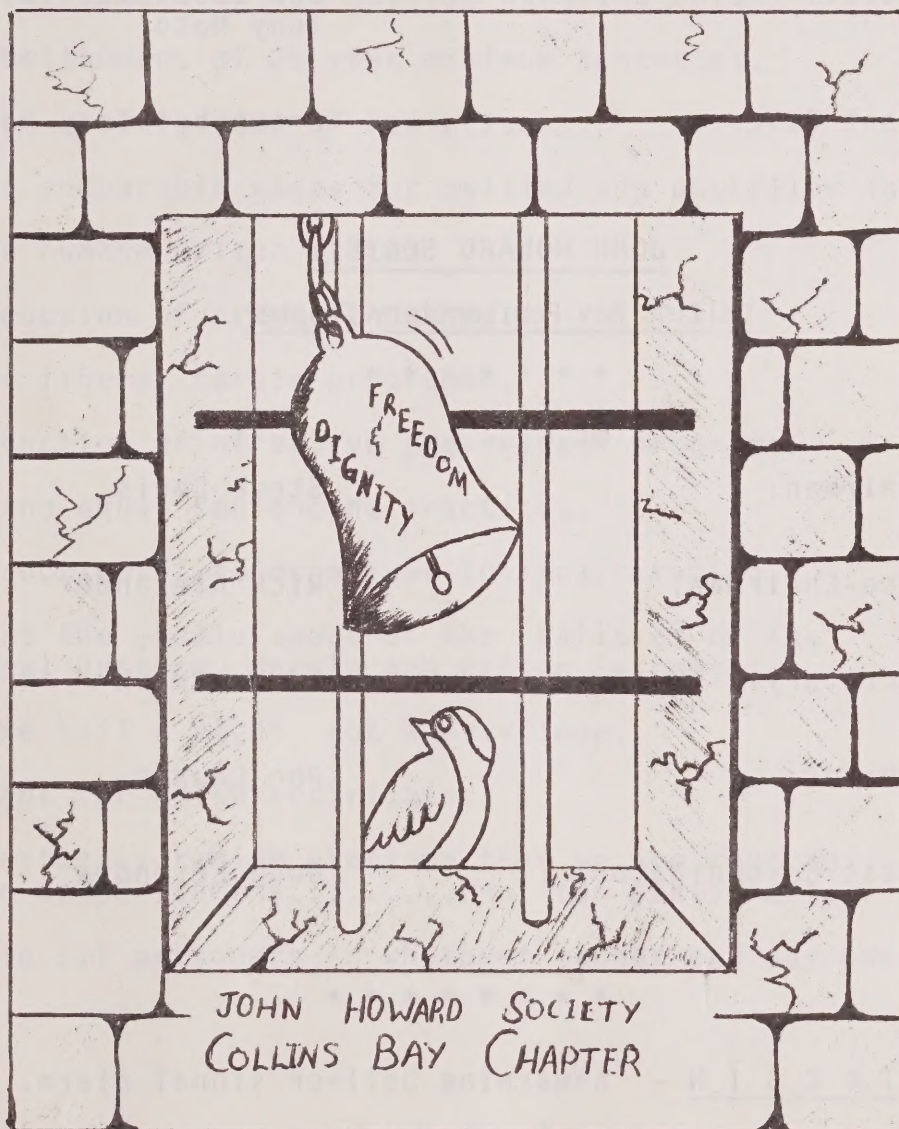


TOESIN



SUMMER 1984

CENTRE OF CRIMINOLOGY

DEC 13 1984

LIBRARY

THE TOCSIN

* * * * *

Editor: Bob Doucette

Staff Writer: Philip Conway

Artist: Bob Doucette
Tony Moto

Front Cover: Drawn by: Tony Moto

JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY

Collins Bay Penitentiary Chapter

* * * * *

Chairman: Steve Lewis

Vice-Chairman: Rick Alexander

Secretary: Ed Hertrich

Advisor: Ron Lauzon

Guest Co-ordinator: Doug Letendre

* * * * *

- T O C S I N - A warning bell or signal alarm.

Articles, poems, jokes, etc..., should be forwarded to:

The Editor
TOCSIN
P.O. Box 190
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 4V9

JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY
Collins Bay Chapter
Aims and Objectives

- 01 The abolishment of Mandatory Supervision.
- 02 The abolishment of all Special Handling Units.
- 03 The abolishment of 25 year minimum sentences.
- 04 Against construction of new prisons.
- 05 Decent comparable wages for skilled and unskilled labor.
- 06 A more humane prison system.
- 07 Introduction of prison industry.
- 08 A more liberal parole programme.
- 09 Introduction of effective pre-release programs.
- 10 Fair and equal sentencing practices.
- 11 Introduction of alternatives to incarceration.
- 12 To make the public aware of the realities of the Criminal Justice, Parole and Prison System(s).
- 13 To make bail a right, not a privilege.
- 14 To fight for prisoners' rights.
- 15 To constantly remind everyone that we are sent to prison as punishment.....not for punishment.
- 16 To help all prisoners in whatever manner and way possible.

* * * * *

* * * *

* * *

* *

*

INSIDE

Editorial Comments:

A sincere apology for the delay in providing you with this Summer issue of TOSCIN. Since I am scheduled to be released it was imperative to wait for the enclosed article from Operation Springboard.

In recent years it has been my pleasure and privilege to use the TOSCIN'S voice in reaching out to you the public concerning various prison topics. I trust my endeavors have broadened your perspective on day to day prison life.

I wish to extend my gratitude to all TOSCIN readers' for their assistance and contributions to the success of our newsletter. You have added a certain depth to its contents.

A special thanks to Operation Springboard, the Honourable James A. McGrath PC, MP, and fellow-con Philip Conway for their enclosed articles. Philip has on occasion, when all else failed, managed to keep my inspiration alive.

In the future, continuous effort will be made to improve the quality of the TOSCIN in order to make its reading even more enjoyable.

All correspondence directed to the TOSCIN should include a statement whether or not you wish to have your material published. The views expressed in TOSCIN are not necessarily those of the Collins Bay administration, the Canadian Correctional Service, the John Howard Society of Canada or any other body of the Criminal Justice System, The John Howard Society-Collins Bay Chapter, nor the TOSCIN Editor.

Bob Doucette
Editor

The beaver does not advertise his building of a dam. He goes to work quietly and builds it. Results speak for itself.

J.C.R.D.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE BODY

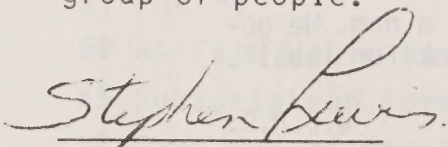
On behalf of the new Executive body of the John Howard Society Collins Bay Chapter, we wish to extend a warm greeting to all, introduce ourselves, and apprise everyone as to our objectives, as they pertain to our group.

First, we wish to thank Jeff McLeod, and Guy Lount, our past Chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer respectively, for their superb efforts, and display of professionalism while fulfilling their terms. Second, we wish to thank our group for their support and confidence they have shown in each of us during our election, and subsequent meetings.

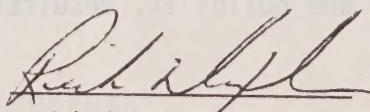
It is our intention to continue to chair our group meetings with the high level of dignity and order our members and guests are accustomed to, and so aptly deserve. We seek to accumulate the knowledge, opinions and ideas that are shared between us on matters of group concern, and to act on them in such a manner so as to not only gain greater recognition, but greater respectability towards our group as a whole.

Our agenda as a prison social group will generally focus on issues involving Law Reform. This includes areas ranging from the abolishments of Mandatory Supervision and Special Handling Units, to the abolishment of the 25 year minimum sentences. We intend to work towards a more humane prison system with a more liberal parole system; to fight for prisoners' rights and to propose effective pre-release programs. We want to make the public aware of the realities of Criminal Justice, Parole and Prison Systems. To do so, we will focus on proposing that bail be a right, not a privilege. We will also introduce alternatives to incarceration, and ask for fairer and equal sentencing practices. We deem it vital for the public to become aware that we are sent to prison as punishment, not FOR punishment. And we will offer an introduction to prison industry for which we would ask for a decent and comparable wage in both skilled and unskilled labor. Our group is founded on the idea to assist prisoners in whatever way possible.

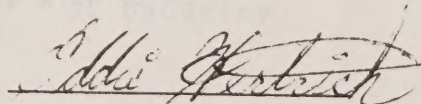
We encourage outside parties who are concerned to contact us. Hopefully the experience we will share, will make us all a better group of people.



Steve Lewis
Chairman



Rick Alexander
Co-Chairman

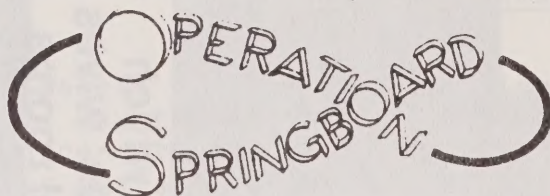


Eddie Hertrich
Secretary/Treasurer



Their men are doing time
in Kingston, but one place
in town these women can
find a friend

Jacky Evon runs Bridge House, which
provides cheap lodging for inmates' wives
and an escape from dreary motel rooms



1801 EGLINTON AVENUE WEST, SUITE 220
TORONTO, ONTARIO M6E 2H8
(416) 789-1808

SERVICES:

*LOW COST
TRANSPORTATION TO 9
FEDERAL AND
3 PROVINCIAL
INSTITUTIONS.*

*LIAISON WITH PRISON
STAFF, PRISONERS AND
THEIR FAMILIES.*

*COUNSELLING TO HELP
FAMILIES COPE WITH
THEIR SITUATION.*



Registered Charity Number 0430868-59-13

OPERATION SPRINGBOARD:

"WORKING TO KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER"

One day in 1969 three men were in a Canadian prison. In the not too distant future they would be released. They would come out to what? Their wives and families had vanished. The trauma of trying to carry out in the face of the difficulties that arise when one partner is incarcerated had been simply too much for them.

These inmates knew, from their own needs and the hopes and needs of those they would be leaving inside that HAVING SOMEONE TO COME HOME TO IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS IN A SUCCESSFUL RETURN TO SOCIETY.

They also knew that without financial aid the cost of transportation to prisons was a burden few families could carry. So they tackled the problem head-on by organizing a body of volunteers to drive families to prisons and Operation Springboard was launched. Eventually funding was secured through the public and private sector to continue this vital service on a regular basis. Today, Springboard provides low cost transportation from Toronto to 9 Federal and 3 Provincial Institutions 6 days a week. In 1983 over 6 000 people from southern Ontario have used Springboard to visit their loved ones. Inmates can travel for free while out on a pass or upon final release. Seats must be booked ahead of time through our office in Toronto.

Needless to say, getting the families together for regular visits is not always enough. When-day-to-day problems of living get in the way of open communication, a sympathetic but objective third party is often able to help smooth out differences and find appropriate solutions. As Springboard's family liaison worker, I visit families at home and inmates in prison to discuss what can be done and to provide support.

Sometimes inmates have lost touch with their families for various reasons, in which case I contact them and try to re-establish the lines of communication. In some situations I am asked to help couples separate from each other because their relationship is no longer working. I am also frequently asked to advocate on behalf of an inmate or family member by writing support letters for parole hearings, employment, housing etc., or to sort out problems between an inmate and CSC staff.

To arrange an interview please phone or write me at the address below, or else ask your family member/friend to do so:

Herma Reuten (Family Liaison Worker)
Operation Springboard
1801 Eglinton Ave. W. Ste. 220
Toronto, Ontario M6E 2H8
(416) 789-1808

correctional OPTIONS

PAROLE DECISION-MAKING IN CANADA

FORUM

**JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY
OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO**

**VOL. 15. FEB. 1984
ISSN 0229-9526**

A DISCUSSION OF PAROLE BOARD FUNCTION

Hair Today, Hair Tomorrow

Are Judges Too Lenient?

A report released by Justice Minister MARK MacGUIGAN says that 80 per cent of Canadians surveyed believe that courts are too lenient in sentencing criminals. Their views are reinforced by the news media, which often summarize days of court testimony into a few 100 words and tend to picture criminal sentences as being too lenient. When given more complete information such as court transcripts, many reporters changed their minds, tending to be more satisfied with sentences to the point of claiming some were too harsh. Newspaper reporting of sentences contributes to a general belief that courts are too lenient with offenders, the report said, because it is not possible for newspaper stories to give all the information that a judge has. The report also indicated that the public's perception of the incidence of violence is a key factor in views on crime. This echoes the finding of another Justice Department study last year that said most Canadians overestimate the amount of violent crime in this country.

THE FUTURE OF WORK

New alternatives to prison

AND

Targeting in on _____
PLAIN TRUTH
Media Relations

Today, you can do
more than you ever thought.

A PROGRESSION
TOWARDS ACCEPTANCE:
THE STORY
OF
INSTITUTIONAL VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers in Institutions

VOLUNTEERS

One of the goals of the John Howard Society CBI Chapter is to strengthen the working partnership between the professional worker and the community volunteer. Neither professionals, with their expert knowledge, nor volunteers, with their feelings for the community, can achieve on their own, what they can accomplish together as a team.

The partnership between the criminal justice system and the community leads to increased community awareness of the correctional process and a greater understanding of its problems. Concern and co-operation go a long way in assisting an offender to become a contributing member of the community.

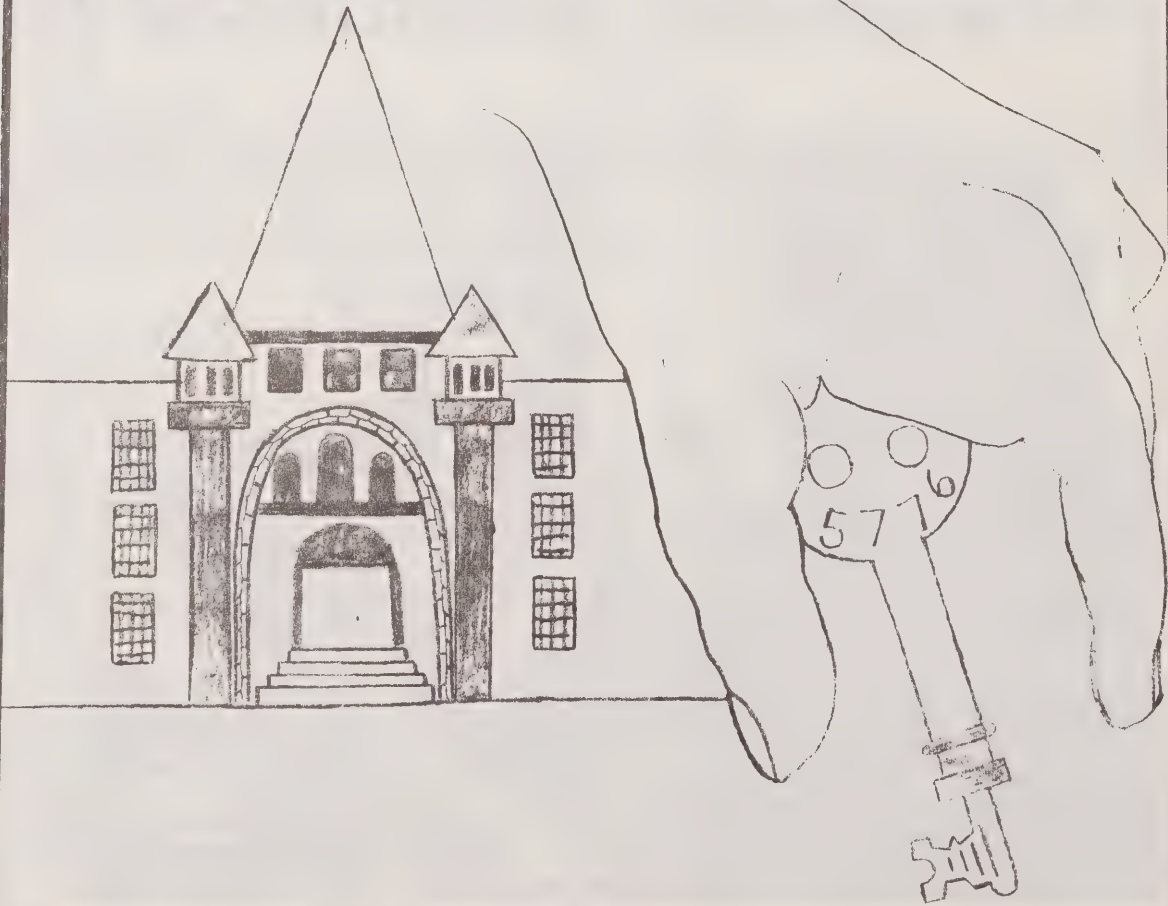
We know how much can be accomplished by dedicated volunteers. They help the offender recognize responsibility for the offence committed; assist the offender to reintegrate into the community; and help the offender find the necessary skills and tools to make a contribution to that society. However, the majority of society is still unaware that offenders need help.

Those involved in corrections must communicate with the public and make them aware not only of correctional activities but also of its intentions. The future of correctional programs is firmly tied to our ability to increase our level of communications. Talk to neighbors, friends and colleagues. This informal communication can be the most effective of all. Listen to your community, analyse its needs and then adapt to those requirements. Voluntarism has become an important part of the corrections system in Ontario, on both sides of the institutions' walls. Volunteers are able to offer time and personal commitment; volunteers have the time to reach even the most difficult offender.

I believe there is more need for volunteers in institutions. It involves the education of offenders in the way of society. Offenders learn how to make positive contributions to society. Fear and bias will not help the offender, but concern and co-operation with the volunteers will go a long way in assisting an offender in his effort to become a contributing member of the community.

Ontario

Board of Parole



GRAHAM STEWART

Graham Stewart is the young (37-yr. old) Director of the Kingston Branch of the John Howard Society. He is a casual appearing person but possesses a sharp mind; he is very articulate, and most important of all, he is a sincere and dedicated man. He also has the courage to do what he thinks is right even if it is going to make him unpopular with the powers-to-be. A perfect example of this courage is when he informed the Parole Service that the JHS in Kingston would no longer supervise released prisoners on parole or mandatory supervision because of the unfairness of mandatory supervision. Graham is a man of principles and he believes that the role of the JHS is to help prisoners and not to be placed in a position where the JHS might be involved in a man being sent back to prison. He feels his job is to help keep them out of prison.

Graham has been in the news quite frequently. He has been on open-line radio shows, been interviewed on television and by the newspapers. He is strongly opposed to places like Special Handling Units and when it was announced that the correctional service was going to "select" 160 prisoners from different prisons who the authorities "predicted" could be violent and who were going to be taken and locked up in places like Millhaven. He aired his views very strongly, informing the public it is impossible to predict a person's actions. He is also strongly opposed to capital punishment. In fact, it was the issue of capital punishment that got Graham interested in corrections in the first place.

When he was 18 years old and a student in Ottawa, he was a member of the school's debating team. One subject was on capital punishment and he was selected to debate the side for abolishment. This association not only helped him obtain facts for the debate, it also convinced him that, indeed, capital punishment should be abolished. He also discovered that many things that he had been led to believe to be true were, in fact, myths. These meetings sparked an interest in crime, criminals and the criminal justice system. He came to believe there isn't any such thing as deterrence and that prisons are ineffective.

Graham first started doing volunteer work with emotionally disturbed children and children from one-parent families. With the latter, it was sometimes just to play games with them to keep them off the streets until their mother got home from work.

One of the persons who made the greatest impression on him was Alex Edmison (a member of the parole board when the parole board was parolling over 50% of those applying) who was Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Ontario. Graham met him when Mr. Edmison was a professor of criminology at the University of Ottawa.

While Graham was at university, he decided that he was going to enter the corrections field - but from the outside; he never considered working within the system. He admits he was young and naive enough to believe he could correct the injustices that exist and to "change the world."

He worked for the JHS in Windsor for one year, then he came to Kingston for one year and that was when he first visited the inside of a prison. He returned to college in Kitchener for two years and earned his MSW degree. He returned to Kingston in 1974 as Executive Director and in 1977, he took over Institutional Services.

He admits to being an idealist but he views prisons as being destructive instead of being constructive. He says, "the public views prisons as giving them security but it doesn't really accomplish this because when men are released, they present a greater problem. They have the same problems as they had when they entered prison, plus, they have lost the most important things they had; their wives, family, etc..., in a great many cases."

Graham gets upset when the subject of Mandatory Supervision, Special Handling Units, lengthy sentences or anything that lengthens prison sentences is discussed. He believes that alternatives to prison should be used whenever possible and that minimum security prisons should be abolished! After talking to him for nearly two hours, that last statement nearly floored me until he explained why he felt minimum security prisons should be done away with. He said, "there aren't any walls around a minimum security prison and a prisoner can walk away anytime he feels like it so he is there for one reason - a labour force. If a person is eligible for a minimum security camp, he should be released from prison; he isn't a security risk to society so return him to society and the work he will be doing will benefit both his family and himself. A person that is not a risk to society should be in society."

A while ago, Graham appeared on a local TV station where the public could phone in and talk to him, asking questions, making comments, etc.... One caller gave everyone a laugh when he told Graham he should shave his beard off, get dressed up in a shirt and tie, etc..., so that he would "make a good impression on the men in there." The incredulous look on Graham's face was worth seeing. If the caller had only realized that one of the reasons we identify with Graham is because he dresses casual, has a beard, doesn't talk down to people, etc..., he could have saved his dime.

One of the stated objectives of the John Howard Society is to "work for reform in all aspects of the Criminal Justice System in order that our system will be effective and fair for everyone." Besides providing after-care services, Graham believes in this objective. He visits the Penitentiaries in the Kingston area and has firsthand knowledge of our concerns. He has access to the media and being the sincere and dedicated person that he is, he acts as our "voice" to express our concerns. He admits he doesn't have all the answers, but points out that he doesn't spend 1½ billion dollars a year to come up with the wrong answers, either. The criminal justice system costs that much.

He believes that the John Howard Society is the one place where every prisoner should be able to feel he is accepted as a person and the JHS should help in any and every way possible to ensure that the ex-prisoner stays on the street. In that way both the ex-prisoner and society are winners.

It is a fact that not all branches of the JHS agree with his philosophy; that is their privilege. It is also a fact that it is Graham Stewart who is gaining credibility for the actions he has taken on our behalf. He is proving, at least in Kingston, the JHS isn't just another government agency - it is an agency that is concerned with injustices that prisoners and ex-prisoners are confronted with and it is trying to bring about changes for the better.

Graham Stewart (it might sound trite) is a good man. I am proud to know him and call him, friend.

George Watson
reprinted
Bob Doucette

MY LOVE

My love for you is tender,
My love for you is warm,
My love for you is like a breeze,
Upon a summer's morn.
I feel you very close to me,
When you are not around,
Inch by inch I grow with you,
High above the ground.
Simple are we together,
Plain as plain can be.
But our love is extra special,
Because it's always we.

J.C.

CANADA'S REFORM IN CRIMINAL LAW

(BULLETIN of the Canadian Association
for the Prevention of Crime) Vol.: XIV No. 4

Published by: Mr. A.M. Kirkpatrick
Former Executive Director
John Howard Societies of
Ontario and Canada

FEMALE GUARDS & INMATE PRIVACY

In the October 5, 1983, edition of the Globe & Mail, the section Across Canada carried a note headed, "Women have edge for prison guard jobs." Mr. C.G. Weck, the Ontario regional chief of staffing for The Correctional Service of Canada, is quoted as saying, "the Affirmative Action Program requires that by 1987 women make up 12.4 per cent of guards in male prisons, compared with 6.5 per cent now. Some male guards feel that female guards could be reluctant to wade into a group of fighting male prisoners or shoot someone if the need arose, but Mr. Weck said the women hired must be willing and capable of working in a man's prison.

But, there are other duties to be carried out by guards in the skin-searching of inmates and supervision of cell blocks, which involves checking cells and shower rooms. Female guards become involved in this, as they are obligated to perform all the duties required of a male officer. This has led to expressions of resentment among the inmate population.

An Inmate Complaint Form was submitted by one inmate, and signed by 40 other inmates, against a female guard at Collins Bay Institution in Kingston, Ontario.

"On July 4th, 1983, at 9:00 a.m., the morning after the slaying in 4-A, a skin search was conducted on the open range of 4-B, by approximately five institutional staff and two police officers. One of the staff was a female guard; Ms---. Most of the skin search was conducted in front of Ms-- full view or presence. Many male inmates were unnecessarily embarrassed. The conclusion of the matter is: your institutional regulations have unlawfully violated or infringed upon the rights of an inmate's privacy in relation to his nudity, in the full presence of a female officer. Because her reckless behavior was condoned by the other members conducting the skin search, the conduct of all seven authorities are seriously under question. Therefore, we are debating on the practicality of filing a civil suit against all seven Collins Bay (Institution) accused authorities, especially Ms--.

On the same day a Complaint Form was prepared for submission to the Collins Bay Institution Warden from the inmate population: "... We the inmates of above institution collectively grieve (see enclosed signatures) to the effect that five to six female guards gathered at the entrance of three-block and unnecessarily observed the strip-searching of dozens of inmates."

The decision regarding the grievance was relayed by the Assistant Warden to the inmate on July 7, 1983. "... our directives from Ottawa state that... female correctional staff cannot be grieved for skin searches unless there is bodily contact involved in the search. Female correctional staff are permitted to visually observe skin search procedures in emergency situations, e.g., the good order of the institution, escape, serious injury to persons, and life and death situations."

Admittedly, the institution may have been under some tension due to an occurrence such as this. Female guards participating in the skin search might have been foreseen as being likely to increase the tension and create further trouble. Should this incident, occurring the day after the fatality, have been construed as an emergency situation? There were obviously enough male guards available to handle the assignment.

The Report of the Correctional Investigator, 1981-82, refers to Searching of Male Inmates by Female Staff. The report says, "A review of the search policy contained in Commissioner's Directive 249 indicates discrepancies in the treatment afforded male and female persons. First of all it allows a male inmate to be 'strip' searched by a female staff member if in an emergency situation but no such restriction is found concerning 'frisk' searches of a male inmate by female staff. On the other hand, a female inmate can neither be 'frisk' or 'strip' searched by male staff. It is interesting to note, however, that a male staff member should normally be frisk searched by a member of the same sex and strip search may not be conducted by members of the opposite sex. Obviously there is not only different treatment afforded to male as opposed to female inmates, but male inmates are also treated differently from male staff and male visitors."

It seems obvious from the Correctional Investigator's report, this problem involves participation in understanding and cooperation of various groups, including The Correctional Service of Canada. Rumour also suggests the Union of Correctional Officers is also involved, in that male guards have taken the understandable position that, if female guards are to be employed in male institutions, they should be required to perform all the duties to which male guards are assigned. Further attempts should be made, in consultation with the Union, to avoid the necessity of assigning female guards to supervision within the actual cell blocks or engaging in such personal skin searches.

The suggestion made by The Correctional Service of Canada, in the Report of the Correctional Investigator, that "... the searching of male inmates by female staff is seen as socially acceptable whereas the converse is not true," needs clarification as to its validity and the extent to which it is a representative expression of informed public opinion. Apparently, it does not represent inmate opinion, even though the Correctional Investigator had received only two complaints at the date of his report. Other complaints, verbal and perhaps written, have, without doubt been made in the institutions without being processed up the scale of the grievance procedure to the level of the Correctional Investigator.

To justify this practice by asserting many other police and correctional jurisdictions have adopted this policy is surprising coming from The Correctional Service of Canada, which publicly takes pride in being a leader rather than an imitator, particularly in the accreditation of its institutions, throughout the correctional field in North America.

The Law Reform Commission of Canada in Working Paper 30 on police powers - search and seizure in criminal law enforcement, comments in s. 122 (p. 50) in regard to police practices in searching. Reference is made to custodial searches in institutions and Penitentiary Service regulations, but these are not reviewed as being beyond the concern of the Commission's mandate. However, recommendation 32 (p. 351) reads "a medical examination (viz. a sexually intimate search, examination of the naked body or probing of body cavities not involving puncturing the skin), should be authorized only if conducted in circumstances respectful of the privacy of the person to be examined." Should correctional custodial practice fall below that of the policing authorities?

The Constitution Act, 1982, Part 1, Legal Rights, s. 12 states, "Everyone has the right not to be subjected to any cruel and unusual treatment or punishment." Depending on the way in which the words unusual treatment are used and defined, it may well be the present regulations governing the use of female guards in the coercive prison setting would be found unconstitutional and not acceptable as judged by contemporary standards of public morality.

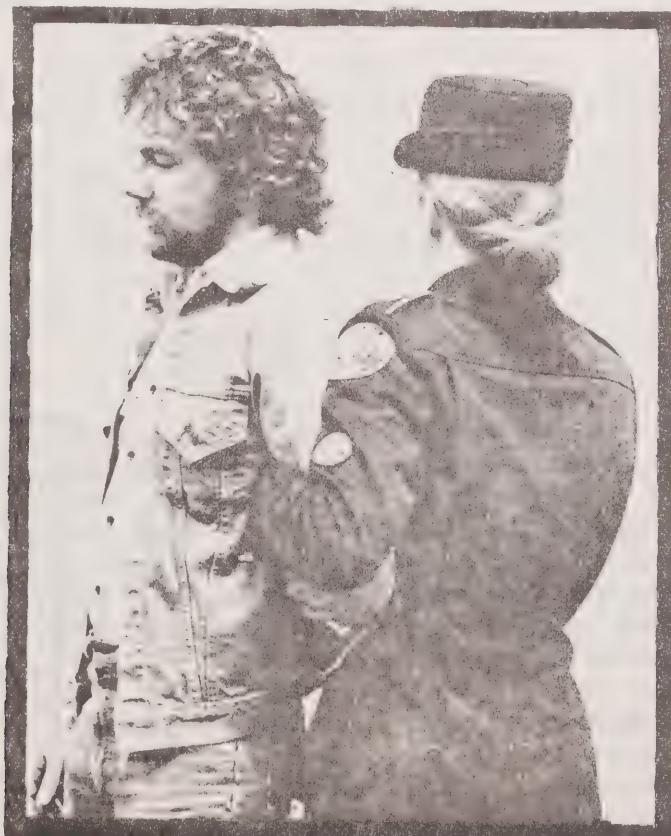
A more personal and generalized description of the problem was given in the Globe & Mail, November 24, 1982, entitled Women jailors' close watch brings shame, prisoner says. In a complaint to the Ontario Human Rights Commission, a prisoner in the Sault Ste. Marie district jail writes, "I cannot even attempt to describe to you the feelings of shame experienced by male prisoners on a daily basis by having to be subjected to female scrutiny while urinating, showering, changing clothes, or sitting on the toilet."

Liaison, published by the Ministry of the Solicitor General, also commented on this complaint. Dr. Edwin Webbking, of the Canadian Rights and Liberties Federation, recognizes the legitimate complaint of a Sault Ste. Marie district jail inmate. Ontario Ministry of Correctional Services spokesman, Donald Kerr, relates the policy to hire female guards has generally been received favorably by male prisoners, although its concern has been with security and not privacy.

The employment of female staff in prisons appears, initially, to have had some beneficial results, although there are obvious potentials for personal danger. However, if the ratio of female guards is to rise to 12.4 per cent, sheer lack of sufficient male custodial staff may inevitably lead to the increase of such undesirable procedures. Surely the Affirmative Action Program, valid and laudable as it may be, was not intended, by such blanket application, to bring about this type of situation.

These practices are demeaning and assume males have less regard than females for their personal modesty. They foster resentment among inmates who are in a coercive situation, which already dulls and coarsens the human sensitivity which exists among inmates, even though they have been convicted and sentenced under criminal law.

Our major prisons tend to depersonalize and dehumanize inmates. Emotions held under the surface may become evident in major disturbances, touched off by some unfortunate incident, giving rise to events such as those at Archambault and Matsqui institutions. It would be unfortunate if the apparent misuse of female guards should add fuel to hidden fires so ready to burst into full conflagration.



Prisoners' Rights and the Charter:

WHAT NEXT ever thought about.

THE CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS:

Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law:

Section 12: Everyone has the right not to be subjected to any cruel and unusual treatment or punishment.

Section 26: The guarantee in this Charter of certain rights and freedoms shall not be construed as denying the existence of any other rights or freedoms that exist in Canada.

Section 31: Nothing in this Charter extends the legislative powers of any body or authority.

The John Howard is applauding establishment of a study group into federal prisons. called following federal correct-Joseph Wendl and Manitoba's Stony the society also look at the overcrowding in

It was submitted that the double occupancy of cells breached the provisions of Section 12. The problem of over-crowding was recognized by all parties to the litigation, and the court said that however temporary the double occupancy of the cells might be, such a condition was not to be recommended.⁵ Yet, the court decided that in this case there was no cruel and unusual treatment or punishment against which the inmates were entitled to protection under Section 12 of the Charter.⁶

Society of Ontario the recent estab-solicitor-general the management of The study was the murders of ional officers Werner Friesen at Mountain Pen. But wants an immediate pressing problem of prisons and the

"get-tough policy of locking everyone up and throwing away the key."

The Police & Human Rights

In the 20 January 1981 edition of the Toronto Sun, there was an article which carried the headline, "Cops Mad At Chretien." The article stated how the police are opposed to proposed entrenched rights in the new Constitution.

The police are upset because the Justice Minister wants the following legal rights guaranteed in the Constitution. Police will be required to prove any search, imprisonment, seizure or detainment is reasonable; the police would also have to prove that any evidence introduced in a court case was legally obtained and that suspects weren't held without just cause and it also requires that suspects be made aware of their rights and be given access to a lawyer before having to submit to questioning. (A process which is entrenched in the U.S. Bill of Rights.)

Canadians accustomed to watching such police TV programs as "Baretta," "Policewoman," etc..., and see the fictional detectives warning suspects, "you have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can be used against you..." probably believe that happens in Canada too. How naive.

Here is the actual police reaction in Canada over the proposed rights:

Toronto's police chief said, "We're shocked and concerned about these proposals." He added he will contact provincial solicitors-General & attorneys-general and ask them to object to the package and notify the federal government they don't want to see the rights entrenched. The police chief has been joined in his outcry by Crowns counsels and the police association.

Prisoners are the people in Canada who have had dealings with the law and they are the ones who know how some police forces operate. Prisoners know how some police abuse the law. We have heard stories of police torture and brutality and how the police have "planted" evidence in some cases. When these accusations have been printed in the newspapers, the reaction by the public is that of outrage, but not against the police. We are liars. Some woman will write to the newspaper and relate how a nice policeman helped her when she had a flat tire on the Gardiner Expressway while another will write about the kind policeman who helped her find her dog. These people are probably telling the truth - but so are we. Why should the police object to the proposed rights?

Why should they object to having to have reasonable grounds before they can search a person or to have reasonable grounds before they can "detain" (an euphemism for picking a person up off the streets and keeping him in jail for a week, weeks or months and then

releasing him) or imprison him? Don't Canadians get upset when they hear of these things happening in South American countries? I'm being the bearer of bad news but "detentions" occur all the time in Canada.

The police wouldn't be allowed to illegally wiretap any more. They would have to get permission from a judge in order to place a wiretap on a person's phone and the judge would make the police supply sufficient reasons. Is this really bad? Isn't one of the things that we point out about countries like Russia is the fact they "bug" phones and then smugly state how superior Canada is? Bad news again. We have our phones "bugged" illegally in Canada too. It doesn't matter whether the wiretap is legal or illegal. Any evidence gathered is admissible in court in Canada.

The entrenched rights would stop the police from beating confessions out of suspects. Is the public against that or does the public agree that if the police suspect a person of wrongdoing, it is perfectly permissible to take him to the police station and have the "heavies" beat and torture him until he confesses and implicates others? If it is agreeable then Canadians should mind their own business when they read in the newspapers about it happening in countries like Argentina. I'm being the bearer of bad news again, but it occurs all the time in Canada. That is one of the reasons why we have the Kingston Penitentiary as a protective custody prison. Some people can't stand up to the beatings and torturing so they "squeal" on their alleged accomplices.

The police, while furious that they might be required to have reasonable grounds for their actions, didn't make any comment on a short article that appeared in the Toronto Globe & Mail - Jan./81 Datelined Winnipeg; it told how two Winnipeg policemen had charges of gun theft quashed in provincial court because the charges were sworn by a policeman who "lacked reasonable and probable grounds to believe they had committed a crime." When policemen are involved, it is fine that reasonable grounds are required, but when it is the ordinary citizen involved, the police are "outraged" that they have the same rights.

Just prior to Christmas 1980, the Toronto Police Department commenced to stop cars at random and check to see if the driver was impaired. Mr. Justice A. Maloney of the Ontario Supreme Court ruled the checks illegal. The Attorney General, Roy McMurtry, suggested that police continue to make these random checks under the guise of looking for "mechanical failures." He was giving the police a license to continue breaking the law.

If there were numerous people being arrested for impaired driving this defiance of the Supreme Court Justice might be considered "reasonable" but the December 23rd 1980 edition of the Globe & Mail reported that of the 40 000 cars that were stopped by the police, 42 people were charged! That is one out of every thousand.

Coincidentally, that is approximately the ratio of Canadians serving sentences in jails and Penitentiaries across Canada - one out of every thousand. 39 958 innocent citizens of Toronto were delayed and forced to submit to a breathalyzer test to arrest 42. How many of them complained? In Canada, it appears that the citizens are more concerned about the rights of citizens in foreign countries and completely ignore their own.

Isn't it true that when Canadians hear about "bugged" phones, detentions, imprisonment without just cause, confessions obtained by beatings and torture, they assume they are reading about a "police state?" All that Justice Minister Chretien is ensuring by entrenching the mentioned rights in the new Constitution is that it won't be happening in Canada - anymore.

The police are hired to enforce the laws of Canada - not to make them. Whether they like it or not, they are public servants and servants don't dictate to the boss. In this case, the boss is Jean Chretien - or is he?

George Watson

"Pitter, Patter, Love"

I sit listening to the raindrops,
through my open cell window,
and the light falls from my eyes.
I hear the sound the rain makes.
It sounds heavy. And I remind myself,
A grown man never cries.
I melt down to a stretched position.
And I lay awake and dream.
Something welling deep inside.
But I refuse to scream.
There is cheer and laughter,
love forever after,
people all around. I am not bound.
I am laying close and feeling need.
A love takes kind heed as I drift off to sleep.
There is a love of mine to keep.
I am content and dreaming.
Still I feel no need for screaming.
My heart starts reeling, I felt so close.
Yet I lay here alone and only dreaming.
I swear I saw you with my very own eyes.
Lucid in real life.
Again I stretch out and lay back.
Listening to the raindrops falling in the night.

Garland Dupuis

FICTION OR FACT?

(Reprinted from Alternatives)

Fiction: The majority of people are honest and law-biding.

Fact : The vast majority of non-violent crimes are committed by the so-called law-abiding segment of the community. Police estimate that over 200 million dollars' worth of fraud was committed in 1983 alone. Estimates of total white-collar crime in Canada per year is 4 billion dollars! This amount includes: shoplifting, contract fraud, employee theft, income tax invasion, false insurance claims, theft from colleges, schools, libraries, restaurants, hotels, and other crimes.

Comment: Welcome to our club.

* * * * *

Fiction: Experts can solve the problem of crime.

Fact : Even though a good police force could solve 90% of murders reported and 60% of other crimes, the success rate in solving property crimes is only 15%. The failure of the experts (policeman, lawyer, social scientist) in recent years has proved that the only way we can deal successfully with crime is in the community with citizens assuming responsibility by becoming informed and involved.

Comment: There goes Kojak's image.

* * * * *

Fiction: To control crime we need more and tougher laws.

Fact : There are approximately 19 469 federal offences and 18 540 provincial offences exclusive of the hundreds of possible offences under the criminal code. Our laws and procedures were developed to deal with crime in stable, rural areas, some hundreds of years ago. With today's mobility, they often do not adapt to current forms of crime: for example, white collar crime, environment protection, stock frauds as well as organized crime.

Comment: They have 38 000 ways of pinching you.

* * * * *

Fiction: The Canadian criminal justice system is "just."

What's A Convict??

It has long been an established fact among those doing time that there is a vast difference between a "convict" and an "inmate." The difference exists only in the minds of those doing time, but it is more real than a United States Supreme Court decision, and has probably been around much longer. This article will be an attempt to define that particular definition. I will list only those qualities that go to make up a "convict." I will not list those qualities that go to make up an "inmate," as they will speak for themselves.

A Convict Is:

A man who does his own time.

A man who does not take unfair advantage of anyone else that is doing time.

A man who does not steal from another prisoner, regardless of the circumstances.

A man who does all he can to help his fellow prisoners, without asking payment of any kind.

A man who is not afraid to speak out when he thinks he or his fellow prisoners are being mistreated.

A man who keeps his head in times of stress and tries to help those around him to hold on to theirs.

A man who keeps his word and pays his debts.

A man who does not snitch or do anything to advance himself at the cost of another prisoner.

A man who will go out of his way to help and protect the weak and inexperienced, for no other reason than the fact that he can remember he wore their shoes.

A man who does not cry and whine about the injustice of his case or the excessive amount of time he received, but instead, goes about his business in trying to resolve the issues in a more positive manner.

A man who thinks all men are equal. He does not think that he is higher than any man alive, nor does he think he is lower than any man alive. Nor is he swayed by the opinions of others.

A man who does not care what others may think of him as long as he knows he's doing the right thing, for he has learned that it is utterly impossible to please all men.

A man who is not afraid to be kind to others, because some might mistake his kindness for weakness. He treats the next guy like he would like to be treated, knowing that what goes around, comes around.

Obviously, 'a man' of normal tendencies - for as of yet, I have never spoken to a convict that was not human. Have you?

JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY - COLLINS BAY CHAPTER

REMARKS DELIVERED BY : Guy Lount
Secretary- Treasurer, JHS
Collins Bay Chapter

ANNUAL SEMINAR - Saturday, 23 June, 1984

"GOOD TIME FOR LIFERS"

By way of preface, a brief observation: Cynics may say that meetings such as this seminar solve nothing; the the problems faced by those involved in the field of corrections are beyond solution - particularly at our level. That all we succeed in doing is convincing those already convinced. But I think not! Our presence here today is a clear declaration that even those of us most intimately enmeshed in the 'system' continue to have some hope that our input may make some positive difference - and more importantly, are not afraid to voice that hope.

As most of you already know, prisoners are, by virtue of their 'good behavior,' able to earn remission on their sentences; this earned remission is commonly known as 'good time' or 'time off for good behavior.' The fact that this 'earned remission' must be re-earned once they are released on Mandatory does not enter into our considerations this afternoon. This privilege, however, does not apply equally to all prisoners - just 'most' of them. And this disparity is the subject of my address - the idea of granting "Good Time for Lifers."

As we sit here enjoying each other's company, there are in excess of 1 000 individuals serving some variation of the life sentence - nearly 10% of the population of the Federal Penitentiary System. In simple practical terms this means that more than 1 000 Canadian citizens will live the rest of their lives at the whim of either the CSC or the National Parole Board. They are, by definition the most dangerous criminals in the country - murderers, armed robbers, and worse; and not surprisingly, society demands that the sentences imposed accurately reflect a collective abhorrence of the crime or crimes that led to their incarceration. Release - when it eventually comes, is equally rigidly controlled. And while I propose to argue neither the merits or necessity of the life sentence as it is applied in this country, I do intend to point out that within this accepted system, there exists a clear and obvious paradox - a paradox that must, I suggest, be fully explored.

Far from being the raving lunatics so often pictured in the sensationalist press, these men and women, these murderers and robbers, these lifers are more often than not the best behaved, most co-operative prisoners within the system - presenting the fewest and least serious disciplinary problems encountered by the administration. Further, these individuals are, by the government's own figures, among the best risks for parole, having an overall success rate somewhere in the vicinity of 75%. Admittedly, reliance on statistics is a dubious strategy at any time, and is open to legitimate criticism; but still, such figures are illustrative of the basic consideration. Yet, despite all these and other positive factors, lifers are often denied any type of parole for many years past their eligibility dates; and I suggest, of similar - if not equal importance, is the fact that, regardless of behavior, they do not have the privilege of earning 'Good Time.'

The response to this criticism is, of course, obvious and immediate. The powers that be, acting as the representatives of society as a whole, quickly point out that mistakes must not be made, that any 'errors' must be on the side of caution. Thus, the pervasive reluctance invariable associated with granting a lifer any type of release.

They would also argue that, since the crimes dealt with are the most serious in the criminal code, imprisonment must be seen to contain an absolute element of punishment, punishment that cannot and should not be ameliorated by some bookkeeping trick of a 'bleeding-heart Parole Board.'

But having said that, one is immediately struck by the suspicion that, in truth, we are not really dealing with 'punishment' here at all but, rather, the public's 'perception of punishment.' A thought, incidently, echoed by the National Parole Board; when they state their criteria for parole, nowhere do they explicitly demand that an individual be 'punished enough' in order to be eligible for release; they do, however, state unequivocally that it is crucially important that he or she no longer presents a danger to the public. And that, my friends, is not punishment but rehabilitation!

In effect then, what we are really dealing with is a system that, for whatever reasons, pays lip-service to public expectations regarding punishment with years and years of wasteful, debilitating imprisonment. Imprisonment that, for the most part, serves no real purpose except to lull the electorate into believing that their wishes are being scrupulously carried out.

Of course, this exercise in futility satisfies no one! Prisoners continue to rot while the average citizen remains convinced that violent crime is rampant and that the few criminals that are caught, are coddled & pampered by a duped and ineffective prison administration.

In dealing with the life sentence in Canada, imprisonment must, in reality, serve two basic and related functions: Firstly, it must protect society; and secondly, it must also rehabilitate. To think otherwise is both foolish and naive as the lifer has only one way to gain release and that is through a constant, visible, and permanent change in both attitude and behavior. And ultimately it must be stressed that to think otherwise is very very dangerous as more and more individuals enter the system chained to a 'forever sentence.' It is imperative that these people, these lifers, see that they have some real hope of release beyond the 'burn-out' factor associated with years & years behind bars.

And I put it directly to you that the best way of improving their chances is to link positive change in attitude & behavior or visible sentence reduction - just as other, non-life sentences are so linked. Of course, such reductions would have to be in terms of parole eligibility date; but it takes little imagination to see the effect that a one or two year reduction in parole date would mean to a man or woman serving a life sentence with... say a parole eligibility of 10 or 12 years.

Rightly or wrongly, it seems to be a generally accepted maxim that the limit of positive incarceration - if indeed there is such a thing - is in the neighbourhood of 5 years. After that, benefits in the form of positive behavioral change seem to level off or diminish as the effects of frustration & despair become more and more apparent. I would, therefore, take this 5 year 'bench mark' into consideration in setting my parameters; for example: if a prisoner exhibited a positive record for the first 4 years of his or her life sentence, he or she might be awarded a one-year reduction in his or her parole eligibility date. That is to say, day parole would now be possible after 6 years and full parole after 9. Continued progress within an individually established criteria might, ideally, result in further reductions. Parole, therefore, would become firmly linked, as it should be, to concrete change in behavior, rather than some arbitrarily established point in time - as it is now.

It must be stressed that this 'paper reduction' would in no way bind the parole board to release the individual on the new

dates; the life sentence would remain in effect. But such a plan would provide the Board with a legitimate barometer of prisoner effort; and, in addition, would provide the inmate with a positive incentive to explore the reasons that led to his incarceration and set about instituting some sort of change.

There are, of course, any number of methodologies that might be perfected to implement such a programme. I do not pretend to have provided either the definitive analysis or solution; I have simply sought to present a vehicle to stimulate discussion of a controversial and increasingly important area of concern. The main thing to bear in mind is that the lifer occupies a unique position in the Canadian Prison population, and represents a long-term investment for society - both in terms of wasted lives and considerable public expense. And while we must accept that purely monetary considerations can never be allowed to jeopardize public safety, we must also recognize and accept that punishment, per se, is already a thing of the past, that it has been replaced in fact by warehousing and the Opportunities Model. But most of all, we, as a society, must come to accept that the public is best served and protected, not by lengthy, futile, and frustrating prison sentences, but by finally addressing the reality of imprisonment and instituting the innovative changes that have been needed for so long.

By: Guy Lount

"The only way to make sure that crime doesn't pay is to have the government take over and run it."

Charged, Convicted & Lonely Men

Since the beginning of time, man has been condemned as an outcast for being in prison. No society has ever felt sympathy towards us prisoners. They refuse to acknowledge the cause of our crimes and reason that prison is where we belong. While they enroll us in what is commonly called rehabilitation, they are confused as to its meaning and effect. Regardless, society feels justice has been met, and that's all that matters.

My definition of rehabilitation is, to change a person into what he/she once was. Only concerning prison, man was never an animal or meant to be treated like an animal; so much for rehabilitation!

Society also confines us from our loved ones. They are not concerned over the hurt that this may cause, only that justice has been done. Age is not one of their concerns either. From the age of 16 upwards, people are being sent to Reformatories and Penitentiary's. Never does society or the Judge consider the detrimental effect this might have on a young and yet undeveloped mind.

Well, we're serving our time, and once finished we're forever branded as criminals in the same fashion as God condemned the first man for eating of the apple. Only thing is, when we're released from prison it was no Garden of Eden. The tense day to day living. The hurt, pain and loneliness - it was a Garden of Hell!

So we happened to make a mistake. Must we forever pay the price? Society says: "Yes!" But they refuse to look at it from our view point. Instead, they rely solely on what they might have heard or read on prison. No doubt, if they were to live on the prison side of the fence they would soon have a different opinion.

Our length of sentence is only the beginning. Doing it is another thing. Have you ever entered through a heavy steel gate and had it slam close behind you? A most frightful sound. The feeling is as if you were caught in the steel jaws of some hungry monster. You know you're going to be devoured, yet you're totally helpless. You want to fight, but you can't. So, what do you do? You scream! That's all. You simply, scream. After all, what else can you do?

Once behind those grey walls, life begins anew. Even though you might never committ another crime the prison will continue to admonish you: 'Once a criminal, always a criminal.' You must learn to expect nothing from the outside world. If anything, your contact with the outside world is limited, perhaps terminated. Your children will grow. You will not have the joy of seeing this growth. Your

wife will blossom. You will not make love to her. Your name will become a sound of the past. Their lips will speak of you less and less, until you yourself doubt your own existence.

Those who are behind the walls are just as human as those on the outside. Sure, the Bible says: "Thou shalt not steal." But does not the Bible also state that the worst man on earth is the man who holds the key of freedom from his fellow man? So who's worse, the prisoner or his keeper? Yes, they forget that we have hearts and needs the same as they do. They refuse to give us a chance to prove that we are human. If we aren't given the chance to prove ourselves then we shall indeed be forever condemned to a life of loneliness in a world of fantasy and dreams of tomorrow. When his tomorrows arrive, they're the present. He is still in prison. He must continue to dream for that day of happy freedom.

I often wonder why society doesn't sentence criminals to work for society, instead of sending them to prison. Once our work was finished we would hold no grudge against society for maltreatment as we would have been given a fair chance to prove ourselves as hard working citizens. Neither would we be labelled as criminals for the rest of our lives.

Someday, I know not when, this dream will come true. Until then we will suffer together and fight for our individuality and freedom. We will fight to be acknowledged as men and not as criminals.

Hear our cries for mercy and a start for a new beginning, not as charged, convicted and lonely men, but as a people who need their freedom in order to survive.

Clark (CBI)
9741

"You know," said the probation officer, "I have discovered something. When you set up a unit in an office and use it to run your volunteer program, you get all kinds of beneficial by-products you never thought you would get."

"Like what," said I.

"Like," he said, "you get ideas given to you; you get suggestions, you get fresh insights, you get the benefit of immense local knowledge, contact and influence, and most important, you get a solid nucleus of knowledgeable, sympathetic loyal allies, and supporters. Probation gets to be known in the community instead of being out of sight as it once was."

Michael T. Healy

The Hon. Solicitor General
Mr. R. Kaplan QC, PC, MP.
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

10 July 1984

Dear Mr. Kaplan:

There is a possibility - not a great one but nonetheless a real one - that Canada will find herself under nuclear attack. No one is particularly angry with us at this time, but in these days of swiftly changing political climate, with ever more countries building long-range nuclear defenses, the possibilities must be taken into account.

The government is aware of the risk. An underground, bomb-shelter complex has been built to house the Cabinet and other key Canadians if it should become necessary, and Canadians everywhere have been advised to build fall-out shelters for themselves.

Most people accept their probable nuclear fate with resignation. Most prisoners are fatalistic on the subject. "If it comes, we're dead," the inmates say, and let it go at that. The idea is just too gruesome for the majority of them to dwell on.

But it is axiomatic that when disaster strikes it is the panic-stricken and the fatalistic (and those ignorant of the nature of their danger) who are first to die. And so it will be if a nuclear war should occur. It will be those who know what to do and are calm enough to do it who have the best chance for survival.

Unless it's a chemical or neutron war, little can be done to protect property; but much can be done to reduce the number of casualties; to rescue and to safeguard the survivors against radiation.... I feel that personal survival can depend on the following:

- 1.) Know the effects of nuclear explosion.
- 2.) Know the facts about radioactive fallout.
- 3.) Know the warning signals and have a battery-powered radio.
- 4.) Have some shelter to go to.
- 5.) Have 90 days emergency supplies.
- 6.) Know how to prevent and fight fires.
- 7.) Know first aid.
- 8.) Know how to get rid of radioactive dust.
- 10.) Know your municipal emergency plan (if one exists).
- 11.) Have a PLAN.

Although most of these steps are impossible, or contrary to prison regulations, for a man/woman in a prison cell, some are not. Numbers 1, 2, 3, and 9 could be enough to save a large number of Canadian prisoners.

Concerning step 1, a nuclear explosion releases energy in (a) light and heat; (b) blast; (c) radiation. A single 5-megaton bomb could destroy Toronto or Ottawa. It would leave a crater a mile wide and a hundred feet deep. It would produce a blaze of light brighter than the sun, which could be seen 400 miles away for 15 seconds. The glare alone would injure the eyes of anyone who stared at it. The heat flash, travelling at the speed of light, would start fires 20 miles away. (Bombs do exist that have over 40 megatons of explosive power.)

The blast travels more slowly than the heat flash. Several seconds may pass after you have seen the light or felt the heat before the blast wave reaches you, depending on the distance you are from the explosion. It is like the time between seeing a flash of lightning and hearing its sound of thunder... at 10 miles from the center of the explosion, it would take 35 seconds for the blast to reach you.

Many people who survive the heat at that range would be killed or injured by flying debris. Buildings including prisons at that range would be half demolished.

If you were near the explosion without adequate protection and managed to survive the effects of blast and fire, people would still be seriously affected by the immediate radiation.

Even if one were far away, there could be great danger from radioactive fallout. Radioactive dust would be carried by the winds and distributed over the countryside.

Under some circumstances people may actually see the fallout dust: under other conditions it may not be seen. The radioactivity it gives off cannot be seen. You can't feel it. You can't smell it. But fallout doesn't come out of the sky like gas and seep into everything. It can be described as snow, drifting with the winds miles above our heads... it can settle hundreds of miles from the explosion. The fallout from one 5-megaton bomb could affect seriously as much as 7 000 square miles. A 40-megaton bomb - simply multiply.

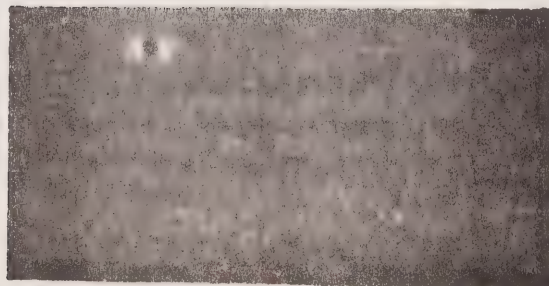
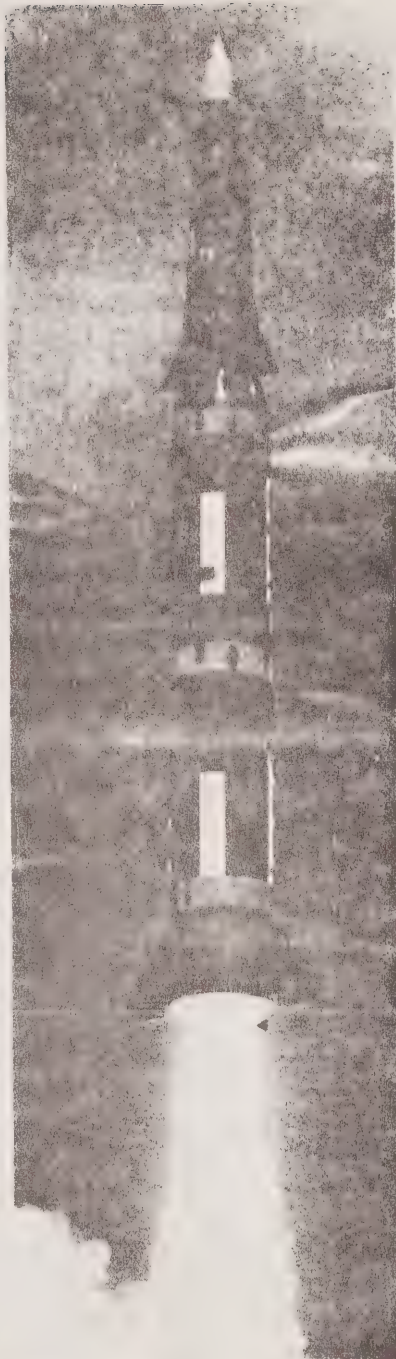
Fortunately fallout loses its potency, rapidly at first. After 7 hours it retains only 10 percent. At the end of 2 weeks it has weakened to a tenth of 1 percent. That is when the authorities would begin advising city dwellers that it is safe to come out of their shelters. People should stay in their shelters until they have been told over the radio (if they're still operatable) that it is safe to come out.

Shelter walls
brick or sand-filled
99% of outside
of lead three inches
packed earth.

Radioactive
with the skin for a
burn. But particles
skin by ordinary
internally is another
illness after a few
of appetite, sore
diarrhoea and general

Hair may fall out
develop leukemia;
condition in which
of white cells and
body's resistance.
Nagasaki many
died from other ills
of their weakened
and other anti-
protect a victim from
though there is not
transfusions that can
sickness itself. The
by virtue of its own
it hasn't suffered

Etc...



constructed of 16" of
cement blocks will stop
radiation. So will walls
thick, or two feet of

particles in contact
few hours may cause a
can be removed from the
washing. Radiation taken
matter. It will produce
days. Symptoms are loss
throat, bleeding gums,
weakness.

and later people may
(cancer of the blood), a
there is an over making
which tends to lower the
After Hiroshima and
radiation-sick Japanese
they contracted because
condition. Penicillin
biotics may be used to
catching other diseases,
much more than blood
be done for the radiation
body will recover in time
regenerative powers, if
too much radiation.

There may be after-effects, of course, and there is some evidence that longevity is affected. It has been estimated that each roentgen over the permissible level of total body radiation will shorten the victim's life by one week. There has been much investigation into possible genetic after effects, and it is probably that human genes may be altered by radiation, as are the genes of plants and lower animals. But if you, as a victim, should have genetic disturbances that make mutations of your children (or of their children), you will be an exception. For the postulated proportion of radioactivated genetic mutations is based on statistical average increases, and highly theoretical at this time.

An explanation of the comparative dangers of radiation fallout in technical terms like "half-life, milliroentgens, beta energy, tissue retention and permissible level" would make dry and cloudy reading. But consider a concrete example: The Lucky Dragon, a Japanese fishing boat, was eighty-five miles away from the U.S. H-bomb test at Bikini Atoll on 1 March 1954. Two hours after the blast, wind-born, radioactive coral dust began falling on the boat. It is estimated that fifteen pounds of the 'hot' dust landed on the decks and other exposed parts over a two-day period. The actual radioactive atoms in that dust are calculated to have equaled only one ten-thousandth of an ounce. Yet all twenty-three crewmen fell sick with radiation, and grew worse after reaching port. They were in the hospital for nearly a year, during which time two died. Only a few of them - the ones who got the least fallout - recovered completely.

"... the radioactivity of split atoms of uranium a few hours after they are born in the heart of a bomb is immense." reads a passage in R.E. Lapp's book, The Voyage of the Lucky Dragon. Even this seemingly insignificant iota of material is the equal to many pounds of pure radium. In fact, at the time of the dustfall, the radioactive debris which coated the Lucky Dragon was more than equal to the world's entire supply of radium!

If those seamen had known what they were up against, and what to do about it, they could have decontaminated their boat by hosing it down at intervals. That and a few simple precautions could have afforded them reasonable protection. And so it could be with Canada's citizens and people confined in prison. Let's say that Canada came under nuclear attack and consider the possibilities. They are not so grim as one might think.

Kingston could be considered a primary target area in view of the Seaway and military staff training college and army base. The first bombs would hit us and major cities, unless they were intercepted and detonated overhead. There probably would be many bombs, so a PLAN of action is necessary. We ALL need to know the warnings. From what I gather, a steady, three-minute alarm from horns, sirens,

whistles means: an attack is probable or radioactive fallout from an attack elsewhere is expected. A rising and falling siren scream, or continuous short blasts on horns and whistles means: "Danger of immediate attack in your area. Take the best available cover immediately - wherever you may be." All-clears would no doubt be announced on the radio, as well as instructions and news.

If prisoners hear an Alert alarm they should be deliberate and methodical in their preparations; but if it's a Take Cover alarm they must be methodical with haste. Since the majority of inmates own a radio and TV set, they will be able to tune in on emergency frequency bands for news of the outside world. Meanwhile they could stock up some water, filling everything that will hold it - jars, dixie cups, anything - and covering their receptacles with anything that will keep the radioactive dust out. A man can live as long as sixty days without food, if he has a little water.

Inmates should hang their blankets on the bars, arranging them as tightly as possible, and plug cell ventilators to slow down air circulation. When that is done to their satisfaction, time may be running out. The inmates should then get down on their stomachs at the back of their cells with a mattress propped on its edge as a shield, and lie there counting their blessings, pitying the countless numbers of Canadians who don't have as much presence of mind and protection. When considering the thickness of prison walls, both externally and internally, the cell should be effective in stopping most of a 5 - 10 megaton blast at a distance of 25 - 50 miles away.

If a bomb - say a little one of 10 megatons should explode fifty miles away, windows will explode inwards like buckshot knocking the blankets down including people if they should be so unfortunate. There might also be fires. Only it is rare for a prison to burn to the ground for the reason of its basic structure of concrete and steel.

Those who have radios and TV's will be picking up bulletins and will soon know how bad things are - and if and when additional salvos can be expected - and where the fallout is and where it is headed. If evacuation is necessary and feasible, will prisoners be re-located?

A certain amount of radioactive fallout will filter into the cells, but if the inmates take care not to move about more than is necessary they will come in contact with the least amount. Furthermore, lying very still under the mattress, will conserve the prisoner's strength, and they will require less water in the event of a prolonged siege. The inmates must remain calm; panic is Man's greatest enemy in emergency. He must be calm in order to think rationally and to his own best interest. Especially does this apply to the Correctional officer, for they will bear the brunt of responsibility for not only

their own lives, but the lives of maybe hundreds of other lives within the institution.

Any inmate who isn't in his cell when the postulated emergency comes might immediately think of going over the wall, but that would be foolish. He would do better to find some water and seek cover. For outside the wall there will be something approaching chaos.

Picture roads suddenly clogged with workers and businessmen, all trying to get home to their families and to their shelters. Many policemen will have abandoned their duties for the same reason; and who will blame them? Martial Law will be declared, but there will be no time for the Army to take over and restore order. The Army itself will need to take cover. Improvident civilians who have no plan, and know not what to seek by way of shelter, will be everywhere, panicking, praying, crying for assistance.

Then, minutes later - when it has been ascertained that the bomb hit somewhere else and that we are safe unless another salvo comes, or until fallout heads our way - the scene will change. The Army will begin organizing the country, (if they still exist). Canada will be battening down. The inmates can take down their blankets and make up their cots. The radio will keep the inmates posted.

Since we are government wards, the government making our decisions and seeing to our welfare, the government must certainly have already considered the matter, and evolved a PLAN to preserve the stability of their prisons in case of nuclear attack. Unlike the citizen, the prisoners cannot run to flee from the disaster whether before or after it occurs.

Most of the guards will have families to attend to. They will be under great stress and, like the policemen, could scarcely be blamed if they left. But perhaps the unmarried ones will realize they are safer in the prisons, and stay to carry out the governments plan.

Etc...

(The reporter asked an old fellow why he thought he had lived so long. "I attribute my long life to canceling my ocean voyage on the Titanic." was the reply.)

There may be pre-determined orders to unlock and shepherd the inmates into the windowless, ground-floor ducts between the cell blocks. Getting men, water and food into those ducts in time might be a tight squeeze, but if they kept their heads and cooperated, it could be done.

I don't think the guards will throw open the gates and say: "Get lost! You're on your own." They might be doing the inmate a disservice if they did that. Or what about the rumor that the guards are simply going to line up the prisoners on the inside perimeter of the wall and simply machine-gun them; to protect a disorganized public from mass depredation?

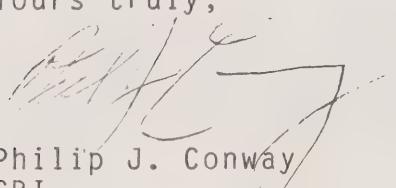
Whatever the government's plan is, it would probably be to their interest as well as society's, for Canada's 30 000 prisoners to become related with society in terms of its continuance or welfare as a nation during and after a nuclear attack.

Since we are forcibly confined, and since our own lives are at stake, the inmates of CBI would like to know if the government has a contingency plan for us in case of nuclear war. We would like this plan made available on a regular basis, (every year?) to the inmate population or included in all prison library's for all to notice and examine at their leisure.

If such a plan does NOT exist, then we respectfully request that a plan be formulated for the benefit of all.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Yours truly,



Philip J. Conway
CBI



CUDDLED

To be cuddled
 even by your words
 is more love
 than I expect
 or deserve.
 Sometimes
 you fill
 empty moments
 with patient concern.
 Perhaps a surrogate lover
 but for sure
 An awfully good friend.

As Fate Would Have It

When I awoke it was daylight. I got out of bed and went over to the window. It was, by the looks of things, going to be a hot and humid day.

I stood there in front of the window, idly and aimlessly trying to figure out what the hell I was going to do now that I was laid off permanently from my job as a real-estate worker. It wasn't the best job a man could possibly have, but the way jobs were now, any job was a life saver.

I went over to the kitchen and opened the fridge door. That's when I had my second bad feeling of the morning.

The fridge was totally empty except for a couple of eggs and half a jug of milk. I slammed the fridge door hard, knocking off a few ornaments which were on top of the fridge. They shattered into millions of pieces all over the floor. I kicked at the pieces, sending small detached portions of china everywhere about the kitchen. I stood there cursing and swearing under my breath.

It took a few more minutes before I pulled myself together, and walked over to the dinning room table and sat down. I looked about the apartment. It was your usual bachelor's apartment; small and cluttered. I felt so cold and disappointed, but still I would not let my mind accept this kind of a defeat. I had to find another job, somewhere very soon, or it was back to the streets.

Just the thought of living and scrounging the streets again sent shivers up my spine. My mind momentarily flashed back to the days of very great and strenuous efforts in order to survive. This was to me one of mankind's most difficult tasks! I shook my head hard, trying to take my mind away from these torturous memories. What happened back then was past. I had to start thinking about the future, and quick!

I went over to the bed far in the corner. I grabbed my pants which were hanging over a chair beside my bed, then reached into my back pocket and pulled out my old brown leather wallet. I opened it and counted out fifteen dollars, plus change. I sighed with great relief as I was expecting it to be empty. I knew then that I had enough money to last perhaps three days if I were lucky. My rent was paid through the end of the month. I had at least seven more days left until my funds were liquidated.

I took a quick glance at the clock on the night table. It was 7:30 a.m. on the dot. I immediately got dressed in my finest clothes. I inspected myself in the mirror. It will have to do. I had no time to waste. If I was ever to get a job, the best time to look was this time in the morning. I went to the door, stopped, turned around and took another look around the apartment. I looked at everything in the room, for at that moment I was fearful of losing everything that I worked so hard to accumulate. That was more than I could take.

I stormed out of the apartment, with more determination than I have ever known myself to have in my entire life.

As soon as I was outside, the heat combined with the pollution made me feel nauseous. I walked to the corner of the street still feeling very uncomfortable. That did not stop me from what had to be done. I crossed the street when the pedestrian lights turned green. On the otherside of the street was a corner store. I entered the store feeling just a little better that I was a few minutes ago. Picking up a few donuts and a newspaper, I payed for them and left.

Walking south for about six blocks, I finally reached the park. It was a magnificent park; clean, quiet and very peaceful at this early hour. It was just the place for me to enjoy my donuts, and search for job offerings in the classified section of the newspaper.

I found a bench underneath a large oak tree. It was a perfect place to avoid the bright and warm sunlight.

Looking through the 'help wanted' adds, I soon saw that there wasn't any jobs available. Only jobs that demanded trade-skill; something that I was gravely lacking. Which meant there were all sorts of people unemployed or even in worse shape than me. I got up from the bench and left the park. I walked all the way downtown, leaving the newspaper on the bench.

The downtown section was at least a mile and a half from the park. Once there, I started the endless search for a job. I must have covered every store in the area. I was totally exhausted and disappointed, by this time. Standing there on the sidewalk, thinking, for at least thirty minutes, my concentration was suddenly broken as a voice from behind startled me. I turned around to see what the hell was going on.

A short, fat, bald man was standing in the entrance to a small jewelry shop. He was yelling at me to get the hell away from the front of his store. With the bad state of depression I was in, I automatically started cursing and swearing at him in a mean and vicious tone of voice. This must have scared the daylights right out of him, for he started yelling out that he was going to phone the police. He then ran into the store. I stood there staring at the store not wanting to believe anything that was happening to me.

Something sparkling in the front display case caught my eye. I took a closer look. I couldn't believe what I was seeing. For there in front of my very eyes were shelves of gold rings, necklaces and watches. That's when I discovered the hidden evils stored up deep within my mind. With all the days happenings, I came to a quick conclusion. Later, when it became dark, I was going to smash the window, grab what I could, and split. I looked over the shelves in the store and saw that the old man was on the phone. I looked up at the address over the door and left before there was any chance of a disturbance. I was sure that was the last thing I needed now.

I walked very quickly all the way back to my apartment with the thought of job searching well forgotten. I finally reached the apartment. You would find it hard to believe the different feeling

I had once inside. I felt so sure of myself now. All I had in my head was money, money, money. I went over and sat on the edge of my bed to think about how I was going to pull this off.

All of a sudden the phone rang. It startled me and made me jump off the bed. The only reason it really startled me like it did was because it was the first time someone had called me in at least a month. I ran over to the phone and picked it up on the fourth ring. I couldn't believe what was happening. It was my boss calling me back after being away for only one day.

He told me that he opened another office in the Woodridge area, and that he landed a large contract from some big real-estate firm. He then asked me if I would like to be the manager for his Woodridge office.

I didn't know what to say for I was completely thrilled with it all. One minute I'm laid off, the next minute I'm planning a robbery. Remarkably, at the moment of decision I receive a marvelous job offer and a management position.

I'll tell you something though. I could just picture myself smashing the window and getting caught. I shook my head, just to get away from my thoughts.

I went directly to bed to sleep away this entire day forever and ever.

By: J. Baddeley
CBI

Send cheque or money order to: The TOCSIN
John Howard Society of Kingston
771 1/2 Montreal Street
Kingston, Ontario. Canada
K7K 3J4

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: PROVINCE:
POSTAL CODE:

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: PROVINCE:
POSTAL CODE:

The above are subscription forms for 1984-85. The rate of population change over, has made it difficult to staff the TOCSIN. We regret not having filled any previous subscriptions. A new team of John Howard members now have the TOCSIN assignment and we have made this project a matter of priority.

The Collins Bay Chapter of John Howard must absorb the cost of printing and postage. Subscription fees are now \$12.00 per year. We need your support to make TOCSIN a functional project. We consider the TOCSIN an integral part of our efforts to make individuals aware of issues concerning all John Howard members and its' supporters.

In the event that you as a subscriber wish to encourage others who may desire to subscribe, please use the above subscription forms.

For further information, contact:

The Editor...



FROM:

John Howard Society
Collins Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 190
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 4V9

COLLINS BAY INSTITUTION
P.O. BOX 190
KINGSTON, ONTARIO
K7L 4V9

To:

Centre of Criminology Library
130 St. George St. Room 8001
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 1A5